

REMARKS

In light of the above amendments and remarks to follow, reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 3-6, amended claims 1 and 7-11, and new claims 12-14 are in this application. Claim 2 is canceled.

In the Office Action, the Examiner required a new title that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed to. Applicants have replaced the title in a manner similar to that suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the title is respectfully requested.

The Examiner also objected to the abstract because it referred to purported merits or speculative applications of the invention. The abstract has been amended herein and withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The Examiner stated that the specification does not comply with 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph because it is replete with terms that are not clear, concise, and exact. The specification has been amended herein and withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. In particular, the Examiner does not see how the sync patterns in Table 7 on page 22 are DC-free in context to the description given on page 6. Page 6 discloses that in the DSV control, the absolute value of the total sum (DSV) of codes is decreased when the train of channel bits is subjected to the NRZI modulation (that is, converted to level codes), and the "1" bits of the train (after NRZI modulation), i.e., +1 codes, are added, whereas the "0" bits of the train (after NRZI modulation), i.e., -1 codes, are added. If the values add up to zero, the code word is considered to be DC-free.

For example, let us use the first pattern of Table 7, which is #01 010 000 000 010 000 000 010 001 000 (where # is equal to 1 or 0). Subjecting it to the NRZI modulation and adding the numbers together as described on page 6 would result in a DSV of zero, which means the sync pattern is DC-free. As such, withdrawal of the above 112 rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Ino et al. (5,506,581). Claims 8 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ino in view of Kojima et al. (EP 0 779 623 A2). The Examiner indicated that claim 2 contains allowable subject matter.

Independent claims 1 and 7-11 have been amended to include features of allowable claim 2. Therefore, independent claims 1 and 7-11 are believed to be distinguishable over the applied prior art. Claims 3-6 depend from claim 1, and due to such dependency, are believed to be distinguishable over the applied prior art for at least the reasons previously described. Accordingly, withdrawal of the above 102 and 103 rejections are respectfully requested.

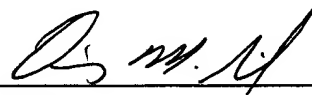
New claims 12-14 are believed to be distinguishable over the prior art as applied by the Examiner.

In the event, that the Examiner disagrees with any of the foregoing comments concerning the disclosures in the cited prior art, it is requested that the Examiner indicate where, in the reference or references, there is the basis for a contrary view.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable over the prior art, and early and favorable consideration thereof is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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